Restoration/repair of water bodies

257. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan/scheme for restoration/repair of water bodies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the budgetary outlay of this scheme in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) whether Government have any plan to extend this project to the whole country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The Government has launched a Pilot Scheme for "National Project for Repair, renovation & Restoration of water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" in January 2005. The water bodies having culturable command area command areas of more than 40 hectares and upto 2000 hectares are included under the Scheme in one or two districts each in States. The restoration of 1079 water bodies has been approved in 26 districts of 15 States under the Scheme. The total culturable command area of 2.99 lakh hectares is to be restored with an estimated cost of Rs. 299.0746 crore to be shared by Centre and State in the ratio of 3:1. The expansion of Schemes in The Eleveth Plan will through external Assistance. The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 2006-07 has announced that 20000 water bodies with a command area of 1.47 million hectares have been identified in first phase in the four States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

Storage capacity of major reservoirs in Orissa

†258. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that storage capacity of major reservoirs of Orissa has come down drastically due to excessive silting;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.